

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Takafumi ATARASHI, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/254,005

Confirmation No.: 6345

Filed: March 1, 1999

For: CONSOLIDATED MATERIAL OF COATED POWDERS AND PROCESS FOR
PRODUCING THE SAME

Docket No: Q53451

Group Art Unit: 1773

Examiner: K. Kruer



AEJ/Reum.
#19/8/02
[Signature]

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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TC 1700

This is in response to the outstanding final Office Action dated March 5, 2002. Please consider Applicants' remarks as follows.

Claims 1, 3 and 5-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as anticipated by or, in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,763,085 to Atarashi et al.

With respect to the limitation that the particles form a "three-dimensional article", the Examiner considered that any article/object inherently has three dimensions such that this limitation does not distinguish over the toner of Atarashi et al. Particularly, the Examiner cited Atarashi et al as disclosing that the particles may be consolidated as a toner (column 9, line 37), a heat-dissipating sheet (column 13, line 19) or for use in heat dissipation of electronic parts (column 13, lines 13-19).